



April is the National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. It calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every person in this community. The Army's theme for 2016 is "Sexual Assault. Sexual Harassment. Not in Our Army."

Rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our community, and statistics show one in five women and one in 71 men will be sexually assaulted at some point in their lives.

Child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience a sexual assault before age 18. Young people experience heightened rates of sexual violence, and youth ages 12-17 were 2.5 times as likely to be victims of rape or sexual assault.

We must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions. Prevention is possible when everyone gets involved. There are no bystanders in this effort. The first step is increasing education, awareness, and community involvement. It's time for all of us to take action to create a safer environment for all.

Every Soldier, Army Civilian and Family member deserves to be and will be treated with dignity and respect. Crucial to our success is committed and engaged leaders, down to the squad leader level, along with campaigns focused on prevention efforts. Sexual harassment, sexual assault and retaliation have no place in our Army.

Please join us along with all the advocates and communities on this installation and across the country in taking action to prevent sexual violence. April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, and each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future.

Train the Force!

EDISON M. REBUCK
CSM, USA
Command Sergeant Major

JOSEPH M. MARTIN
MG, USA
Commanding General



Major General Joseph Martin, National Training Center and Fort Irwin Commanding General, along with Command Sergeant Major Edison Rebutck, National Training Center and Fort Irwin Command Sergeant Major, sign a proclamation to kick off Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. MG Martin emphasized the importance of awareness and prevention as it pertains to sexual harassment and sexual assault, with Squad Leader's as the decisive point of these actions.